

2001-014-636

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General Services Administration
FAR Secretariat (MVP)
1800 F Street, N.W., Room 4035
Washington, D.C. 20405

Re: FAR Case 2001-014

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my opposition to the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council's proposal to repeal the Clinton administration's rules on federal contractor responsibility. The rules require contracting officers to look at a company's record of complying with the law in deciding whether the company is a "responsible contractor" eligible to receive a federal contract.

As a U.S. taxpayer, I want my tax dollars to go to responsible companies that comply with the law, not to corporate lawbreakers. Companies that routinely violate laws designed to protect the environment; consumers, workers and other important rights shouldn't be rewarded with valuable federal contracts.

Companies that routinely disregard worker safety and health, fail to pay minimum wages and overtime as required by the law, or violate other laws providing fundamental protections to workers shouldn't be rewarded with federal contracts. Companies that illegally pollute our rivers and streams, fail to comply with toxic waste laws or release pollutants into our environment in violation of clean air laws shouldn't be rewarded with federal contracts. And companies with track records of discriminating against women, people of color, people with disabilities or others in violation of our civil rights laws shouldn't be rewarded with lucrative federal contracts.

That's unfair to companies that do comply with the law and allows chronic violators to profit from their lawbreaking.

Federal contracts should go to responsible, law-abiding companies, not to corporate lawbreakers. I urge the FAR Council *not* to repeal the contractor responsibility rules, but to allow the rules to go into effect without further delay.

Most sincerely,


Kerry Whitson

7/13/01